



Celmisia adamsii var. *adamsii*

Common Name(s):

Adams Daisy

Current Threat Status (2012):

Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. North Island: From Castle Rock (above Coromandel) south to the Kauaeranga Valley. Also Mt Pirongia (Hihikiwi and nearby high points)

Habitat:

Montane along river gorges, on steep-sided, shaded, sparsely vegetated slopes, rock outcrops, cliff faces and rock tors.

Features*:

Tufted herb with simple or sparingly branched stock, pseudo-stem up to ± 60 mm long. Lamina subcoriaceous, acute, often with fine apiculus, 90-400 × 10-30 mm, narrowly to broadly oblong-lanceolate to almost linear-oblong (diverse forms may occur on same plant); upper surface ± glabrous, dark green to yellow-green, with ± distinct thin pellicle, midrib broad, grooved, main veins prominent; lower clad in soft white appressed or subappressed tomentum, midrib prominent; margins distantly finely denticulate, narrowing to petiole up to c. 30 mm long; sheath ± 50 × 15 mm, dark green, sometimes tinged purple, veins evident, surface tomentum ± as in lamina, margins floccose. Scape 150-400 mm long, rather slender, often flexuous, ± flattened, ± clad in floccose tomentum. Bracts usually few, up to 10 mm long, lamina almost filiform. Capitula 30-50 mm diameter; involucre bracts, green to pale green, linear-subulate to narrow-lanceolate, c.12 mm long, margins ciliolate, midrib evident. Ray-florets numerous, up to 30 mm. long, tube slender; limb gradually widened to 4-toothed apex, veins distinct. Disk-florets 6.0-6.5 mm long, narrow-funnelform, teeth narrow-triangular. Achenes glabrous, strongly ribbed, narrowly compressed-cylindric to very narrowly obovoid, ± 4 mm. long. Pappus-hairs sordid-white, up to 5 mm long, slender, finely barbellate.

Flowering:

September - April

Fruiting:

October - July

Threats:

A naturally uncommon, narrow range endemic that is locally common in parts of its Coromandel Peninsula range. Some populations have been damaged by tracking and illegal plant collection but most are secure. On Mt Pirongia it is very uncommon and seems to be dying out as denser vegetation colonises the formerly open rock outcrops it grew on. This vegetation shift is due to intensive goat and deer control on that mountain which has helped restore the natural cloud forest vegetation but ironically at the expense of some unusual occurrences of small, montane often herbaceous plants like this *Celmisia*.

*Attribution:

Description adapted from Allan (1961) and de Lange (1994)

References and further reading:

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I, Government Printer, Wellington.

de Lange, P.J. 1994. *Celmisia* on Mt Pirongia Western Waikato some notes on its identity and taxonomy. Auckland Botanical Society Journal, 49: 74-76.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=412



Caption: Castle Rock
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Caption: At Castle Rock. November
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth